



U.S. Embassy in Cairo Study of the United States Institutes for Student Leaders on Religious Pluralism and Social Entrepreneurship

Description:

The 2014 Study of the United States Institutes for Student Leaders on Religious Pluralism and Social Entrepreneurship are intensive academic programs whose purpose is to provide groups of Egyptian undergraduate student leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States, while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills. The Institutes will take place in June and July 2014. The five-week Institutes will consist of a balanced series of seminar discussions, readings, group presentations, and lectures. The coursework and classroom activities will be complemented by educational travel, site visits, leadership activities, and volunteer opportunities within the local community. The Institutes will include an academic residency component of approximately four weeks and a domestic study tour of approximately one week. During the academic residency, participants will also have the opportunity to engage in educational and cultural activities outside of the classroom. Successful applicants will be provided with international/ domestic airfare, housing, a living stipend, tuition, books/ incidental allowances, and health insurance coverage.

Program (1) The Institute on Religious Pluralism in the U.S.

Program dates are tentatively are **July 5 to August 9, 2014**. The Institute will be hosted at the Dialogue Institute at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The four week academic residency will focus on U.S. history, society, and institutions within the context of religious pluralism and interfaith dialogue. Participants will discuss topics such as early religious traditions in the U.S.; the separation of church and state; immigration and the introduction of new religions in the U.S.; protection and representation of minority groups and religions; and interfaith dialogue and cooperation. Participants will meet with community leaders of different faiths that advocate for collaboration and tolerance among religious groups. The academic residency will be complemented by an educational tour that will take participants to another area of the U.S. where they will meet with local leaders of different faiths, leaders of nonprofit organizations, and visit important religious sites. The Institute will then conclude with a 3 day program in Washington, D.C.

Program (2) The Institute on Social Entrepreneurship

Program dates are **June 21 to July 25, 2014**. The Institute will be hosted at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Connecticut. The four week academic residency will focus on will focus on the development, history, challenges, and successes of social enterprises and community leaders, in the United States and globally. Participants will discuss topics such as microfinance; organizational development and management; grant writing; innovation; emerging markets and risk analysis; strategic business planning; corporate social responsibility; and, women and minorities in entrepreneurship. Students will also have the opportunity to leave the classroom to meet with community leaders, entrepreneurs, and representatives of non-profit organizations. The academic residency will be complemented by an educational tour that will take participants to another area of the U.S. where they will meet with local, state, private, and nonprofit organizations working in the field. The Institute will then conclude with a 3 day program in Washington, D.C.

Eligibility Requirements:

Ideal candidates must:

- Be Egyptian citizens, living in Egypt
- have a strong interest in religious pluralism or social entrepreneurship (depend on each program)
- be fluent in English (Remark: TOEIC Listening and Reading Test is required)
- currently enrolled and in good standing in an Egyptian university and between 18 and 25 years of age
- have completed at least one semester of University and have at least one semester remaining in their university studies
- be committed to returning to Egypt to complete their degree
- demonstrate strong leadership qualities
- have a sustained high level of academic achievement
- have demonstrated commitment to community and extracurricular university activities
- have no prior study or travel experience in the United States
- be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and educational travel; and,
- be comfortable with campus life, prepared to share living accommodations, and able to make adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home country.

Application Instructions:

Download application at: <http://egypt.usembassy.gov/pa/xchgs.html>

Completed applications must include ALL the following:

- Completed Application Checklist Form
- Completed Biographical Application
- Nomination form: The nominator can be academic (professor, advisor or teacher), or professional (work/internship supervisor). The form should be type-written in English and signed by hand.
- 1 Recommendation Letter (can be from the university or another institution). The recommendation letter should be type-written in English and signed by hand.
- Personal Statement
- Copy of official university transcript (please do not submit original transcripts). Transcripts are the official document from the applicant's university (or school) showing the student's scores, grades etc for previous years of study.
- Copy of National ID and/or passport

Applications are received by post/mail or by hand-delivery. Please read application instructions carefully for details.

For any inquiries, please : CairoSUSIstudents@state.gov

Remark: Hand-written, repeated, incomplete applications, applications received after the deadline or applications sent by e-mail will not be considered.

Deadline for Applications: December 30, 2013 at 2:00 PM